

22 June 1965

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief, GRA/RR

SUBJECT : Geographic Research ADP Committee

After reviewing the correspondence and minutes of the ADP Committee of the Geographic Research Area, it seemed advisable to bring you up to date on the ADP activity of OBI. To date, this has been limited to printing only.

The Publication Division was given the responsibility for ADP in OBI and, for a number of years, a modified machine card listing with print outs has been used for various OBI reports and the NIS Gazetteer program. In addition, flexowriters have been in use for the preparation of internal reports. These are typed from tape on stencils and the required number of copies run. About a year ago, the Basic Intelligence Factbook was put on tape and is now being revised for the second printing.

In May 1964, the AD/OCS, AD/OBI, and Chief, PSD concurred in the implementation of project EPIC, designed to develop computer-assisted systems for the composition of NIS text for printing. A committee was set up, composed of two members each from OCS and PSD and one from OBI. The committee has made considerable progress as the latest Status Report No. 12, dated 28 May 1965, shows. It is expected that by the end of FY 66, the project will be completed and full scale production of NIS printing, assisted by the computer, will start.

Developing a system for the printing of NIS gazetteers will be a much simpler project. Some of the problems in the gazetteer printing will be resolved with the completion of project EPIC. Other problems seem minor, but must wait until OCS has available personnel for this assignment. Also, it seems desirable to make a study on the gazetteer user needs. This could require format changes and possibly procedural changes in the Office of Geography in Interior.

This basically covers the extent of OBI's participation in ADP. At this point, it would seem desirable to have this office represented on the present GRA, ADP Committee and I would suggest that [REDACTED] Deputy Chief, D/P/BI, be selected as this representative.

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I would welcome the opportunity to give you, [REDACTED] a briefing on project EPIC sometime early in July at your convenience.

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Chief, Publication Division

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